



Maintenance

RED BALL PROCEDURES

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

OPR: 302 FS/MA (CMSgt D. Nielsen)
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This instruction implements AFD 21-1, *Managing Aerospace Equipment Maintenance*. It establishes procedures for initiation of a "Red Ball" action and ensures proper documentation and follow-up is taken. It applies to all maintenance activities within the 944th Fighter Wing.

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS

This revision changes text (paragraphs **2.1.** and **3.6.**). An asterisk (*) indicates revisions from the previous edition.

1. Responsibilities. The 302d Fighter Squadron (FS) commander and maintenance supervisors must ensure that workcenter supervisors are familiar with the contents of this instruction and that necessary actions are complied with promptly.

2. Definitions. "Red Ball" maintenance actions are defined as:

*2.1. Any unscheduled aircraft system failure, which occur within two hours of scheduled flight time.

2.2. Any aircraft systems problem noted by the pilot prior to takeoff.

3. Procedures. When a "Red Ball" occurs:

3.1. The flight line expediter will notify the Maintenance Operations Center (MOC).

3.2. Expediter and/or MOC will dispatch the appropriate workcenter.

3.3. The flight line expediter will monitor the status of the "Red Ball" and keep MOC informed.

3.4. The performing workcenter will determine the status of the system and will determine if the aircraft can be used for flight. If maintenance is required, expedite will assign a job control number and an entry will be made in the AFTO Form 781A, **Maintenance Discrepancy and Work Document**.

3.5. If maintenance actions include replacement of any aircraft part(s) or any other action which generates follow-on maintenance, the required follow-on maintenance must be performed prior to aircraft launch. This follow-on maintenance can be performed by ground personnel or by the pilot.

*3.6. The "corrected by block" of the AFTO Form 781A entry will be signed off by the maintenance technician performing or assisting the pilot in performing the follow-on maintenance. The "inspected by" block of the AFTO Form 781A entry will be signed off in accordance with current technical order. A new exceptional release must be accomplished prior to aircraft taxi.

CRAIG S. FERGUSON, Colonel, USAFR
Commander

Attachment 1

GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

References

AFRCI 21-101, *Aircraft Maintenance Guidance and Procedures*

AFCSM 21-556 (various volumes), *Core Automated Maintenance System (CAMS)*

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AFCSM – Air Force Computer Systems Manual

AFPD – Air Force Policy Directive

AFRCI – Air Force Reserve Command Instruction

AFTO – Air Force Technical Order

FS – Fighter Squadron

MOC – Maintenance Operations Center